

ENVIRONMENTAL Fact Sheet



Taylor Lumber and Treating, Sheridan, Oregon

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 10

November 2005

EPA Superfund Record of Decision Issued for Cleanup of Taylor Lumber and Treating Site

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has issued its plan to address remaining contamination at the Taylor Lumber and Treating Superfund site in Sheridan, Oregon. This document, called the Record of Decision or “ROD” describes the approved plan for cleanup work at the Taylor Lumber and Treating site.

What is in the cleanup plan?

The overall plan is to keep the most contaminated water and soil behind an existing underground barrier wall and cover that area with a new cap. Groundwater from inside the barrier wall will be pumped out, treated on site, and then discharged to the South Yamhill River. The discharged water must meet the state water quality permit requirements. Other areas that are not as highly contaminated will be covered with asphalt or the soil will be dug up and disposed of. Rainwater that collects on some parts of the site will be treated to remove any contaminants before it is released. The ditches next to the site also will be cleaned. These actions will protect workers at the site from contact with contaminated material and will prevent contaminated water from leaving the site and reaching places where people or wildlife could come into contact with it.

Here are the specifics:

- The existing underground barrier wall will be checked regularly to make sure that it continues to prevent contaminated groundwater and chemicals from moving off the site. Contaminated groundwater will be pumped out and treated.

- The asphalt cap that overlays the barrier wall will be replaced with a more durable cap. This will prevent human contact with contaminated soil underneath it. This cap and the barrier wall surround the most contaminated portion of the site. The cap also will keep rainwater from soaking into the area enclosed by the underground barrier wall.
- Areas with contaminated soil will be 1) covered with an asphalt cap or 2) dug up and put in areas that will be covered by a cap or 3) dug up and taken off site to a disposal facility.
- Caps will be maintained in good repair to ensure that they remain protective.
- Contaminated groundwater at the site will be monitored to be sure it does not leave the site.
- Future use of the site will be restricted to industrial purposes. Conditions in the property's deed will prevent use of groundwater.

What happens next?

Now that the cleanup plan has been selected and the State of Oregon has agreed, EPA will prepare a
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What happens next? *continued*

detailed design for cleanup of the site. Once the design is completed, construction can begin. The construction phase is expected to last less than one year. EPA will prepare fact sheets and update the website to report on progress.

Certain activities such as monitoring groundwater, treating rainwater, and maintaining the caps in good condition will continue for a long time. EPA will conduct extensive reviews of the site every five years to ensure that the Selected Remedy continues to protect human health and the environment.

What has already been done at the site?

EPA has conducted three emergency actions at this site to protect on-site employees, local residents, and the South Yamhill River from wood treating chemicals that were released at the site when Taylor Lumber operated it. In 2000, an underground barrier wall was built to surround the most contaminated groundwater and soil, and an asphalt cap was installed over that area. Later, a residential yard was cleaned up, as were some ditches within and next to that yard and the Taylor Lumber facility.

When Taylor Lumber declared bankruptcy in 2001, Pacific Wood Preserving of Oregon (PWPO) bought this property. PWPO produces treated wood products using chemicals which are safer for workers and the environment. The new owner is cooperating with EPA on the installation and maintenance of the Selected Remedy.

The Proposed Plan for cleaning up this site was issued in July 2005, and EPA requested comments on that plan. The public comment period ran from July 28 to August 26, 2005. The comments and EPA's response to those comments

appear in the "Responsiveness Summary" which is attached to the Record of Decision. The Record of Decision was signed by EPA and the State of Oregon's Department of Environmental Quality on September 30, 2005.

Site Background

For over thirty years, Taylor Lumber and Treating (TLT) operated a wood-treating plant near Sheridan, Oregon. Toxic and cancer-causing chemicals, such as creosote and pentachlorophenol, were used to preserve wood. Many wood-treating chemical spills contaminated soil and groundwater at the site. In December of 2000, EPA proposed the site for its National Priorities List of long-term cleanups.

Pole storage area.



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The Record of Decision and administrative record can be reviewed at:

Sheridan Public Library

142 NW Yamhill Street
Sheridan, Oregon 97378
503-843-3420

EPA Region 10**Superfund Records Center**

1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101-1128
206-553-4494 (*Please call for an appointment.*)

Visit our website: <http://www.epa.gov/r10earth/>

Click on Index A-Z, then on T, and on Taylor Lumber and Treating site.



*Alternative formats are available. For reasonable accommodation, please call **Renée Dagseth**. TTY users, please call the Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339 and give the operator Renée Dagseth's phone number.*



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Return Service Requested

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